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DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

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17 June 1969

State Department review completed

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Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A013900120001-4

Approved For Release 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A013900120001-4

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No. 0144/69
17 June 1969

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South Vietnam: Communist forces staged several sharp attacks against allied positions on 16 June and fired two rocket rounds into downtown Saigon.

In the most dramatic assault, an enemy battalion suffered a reported loss of 212 men in a five-hour attack against a Thai base camp in Bien Hoa Province. Bien Hoa air base was struck with five rocket rounds, but casualties and damage were reported light. Also on 16 June, Communist ground forces attacked a US artillery position in the A Shau Valley, losing 52 men in a four-hour assault, while enemy gunners hit a US Army installation south of Hue with seven 122-mm. rockets.

On 15 June, 69 enemy mortar and artillery rounds struck Ben Het. The headquarters of the US 25th Infantry Division in Hau Nghia Province was also hit by rockets on 15 June. Most of the action in the delta provinces consisted of light, scattered shellings. [] (Map)]

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France-Poland: [Paris is again threatening to disregard Western strategic trade controls by concluding a contract for the supply of strategic transistor technology to Poland.]

[The French informed the US ambassador last week of an agreement to license the manufacturing technology for silicon transistors to Warsaw. This technology may be used to produce micro-electronic components used in third generation computers and other sophisticated military electronic gear. The agreement is part of a larger package deal which reportedly involves the sale of facilities for some \$60 million worth of French silicon transistors as well as the supply of an unspecified amount of copper mining equipment.]

[Poland will reimburse France with deliveries of copper worth up to \$120 million. French officials claimed that the Poles would turn to the USSR for this package if France refuses to follow through on the transistor technology sale.]

[French officials admit that there is no doubt that silicon transistor technology is denied to Communist countries under recent rulings of COCOM, the Western committee for coordinating policy on the sale of strategic items to Communist countries. They did not intend to raise the case in COCOM.]

[In the course of a recent Western review of COCOM-denied items, Paris failed to gain wide relaxation of controls on the sale of computers and computer technology to the USSR and Eastern Europe. The French previously have ignored adverse COCOM rulings in the sale of computer technology to Rumania and Czechoslovakia.]

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Chile [redacted] Cuba: Chilean Foreign Minister Valdes continues to promote the idea that Cuba should be re-integrated into the inter-American system.

In conversations last week with US officials, Valdes took the line that ending Cuba's isolation would reduce its threat as a source of revolutionary activity. He has often said in the past that Latin American nations, acting as a group, should resume trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba, but he has usually qualified his statements by asserting that Cuba must first stop "exporting" revolution. President Frei recently stated that Chile would take no unilateral action in this regard.

Valdes' attitude seems to have aroused little enthusiasm elsewhere in the hemisphere.

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Although Castro's animosity toward President Frei has so far proved an effective barrier in the re-establishment of diplomatic ties, Havana would not reject out-of-hand a move by Chile to improve relations. Castro would view favorably any action that would contribute to the diminution of US influence and the weakening of the OAS. Despite his desire to break out of Cuba's diplomatic isolation, however, Castro would treat an approach by Chile with extreme caution and might impose conditions that would be impossible for Chile to accept.

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Nonaligned Meeting: A consultative meeting of 39 nonaligned countries is to open in Belgrade on 8 July. It will be the first gathering of the so-called uncommitted countries since 1964, when 58 national leaders gathered in Cairo for the second nonaligned summit. The delegates will probably avoid criticism of any one country and only discuss in broad terms the contributions of the nonaligned toward peace. Yugoslavia hopes that the forthcoming meeting will lead to a third nonaligned summit. Tito's enthusiasm, however, has not been shared by many other leaders and the prospects for a summit conference this year are dim.

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